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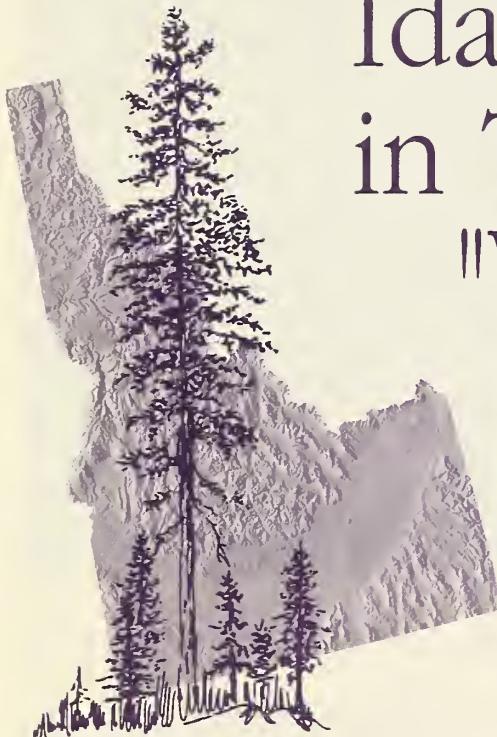
# Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 3

May - June 1999

## Idaho's Forests in Trouble



### Getting the Message to the People

by Dave Atkins, ecologist  
and Charlene Schildwachter, legislative  
and marketing specialist, RO

"What do you mean our forests are unhealthy — they look green to me!" According to a recent survey conducted in Idaho, 80 percent of participants think Idaho's forests are just fine!

The reality is Idaho's forests are in trouble. "The Douglas-fir bark beetle, root diseases and other influences are changing the forests," said Jim Byler, pathologist in Idaho. "Some change has been rapid and some has taken decades to develop."

The change in tree species is dramatic. Since the 1950's, western white pine has declined 93 percent; ponderosa pine, 44 percent; and western larch, 72 percent.

Other bad news: Aspen is showing a high incidence of decay and is being replaced in many places by conifer forests. Whitebark pine forests are greatly diminished, particularly in the northern part of the State. On the upswing is Douglas-fir and spruce fir.

### What We're Doing

In addressing the issue, Idaho land managers are giving education high priority. "Informing and educating our customers and partners about the condition of their forests is one of the first steps toward making positive changes," stated Dayle Bennett, Idaho entomologist. "We all have our work cut out for us!"

Changes in forest type and density in fact do create hazardous conditions for residents. As Stan Hamilton, Idaho State Forester, explained, "We have more and more people moving into or adjacent to forested areas. The threat to lives and property is growing. We must work with landowners and communities to reduce the risk of wildfires, insect and disease epidemics, and create sustainable forests."

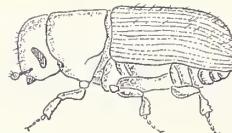
Some options to actively manage the land include prescribed fire, thinnings, regenerating young forests of desirable species after fire or logging, and restoring watersheds by eliminating roads that are not needed or are damaging to water quality.

Regional Forester Dale Bosworth commented, "In the past, the debate over land management was focused on what should be taken from the land. Today, we need to refocus on what we are going to leave on the land."

Through activities like stewardship contracting we are increasing wildlife habitat, improving watersheds, and reducing the risk of uncontrolled wildfires. The goal is to leave the kind of forests that can sustain us.

The full story of Idaho's forest condition is related in a recently released 30-page report, *Health of Idaho's Forests*. For a copy, please contact Dave Atkins in the RO, IBM address: datkins/r1, or telephone 406/329-3132; or call Jim Byler, telephone 208/769-7342.

## *The Douglas-fir Bark Beetle Saga Continues....*



## Forests Take Action to Address Epidemic

by Nadine Pollock, George Washington & Jefferson National Forest, detailed to the IPNF

**D**espite the complications surrounding the Douglas-fir bark beetle epidemic in northern Idaho and eastern Washington, the Forest Service has now selected an official course of action. In early June, after an extensive public involvement effort, the forest supervisors selected an alternative from those presented in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The project is not an easy one in terms of logistics. It involves analysis of more than 200,000 acres of land with diverse watersheds, road networks, and vegetative composition. And the project area—R-1's Idaho Panhandle National Forests and R-6's

Colville National Forest—means that staff are dealing with two forests, two regions, two states, and even two sets of regional forester sensitive species lists.

The selected alternative, widely supported by the public, calls for removal of dead and dying Douglas-fir trees on approximately 24,000 acres.

By removing dead and dying trees, the likelihood of intense wildland fires both in the forest and adjacent populated areas is lessened. Timber harvests to establish young western white pine, ponderosa pine, and western larch are included in the treatments, along with salvaging dead or dying trees.

The forests will also relocate, reconstruct, and obliterate roads and replace

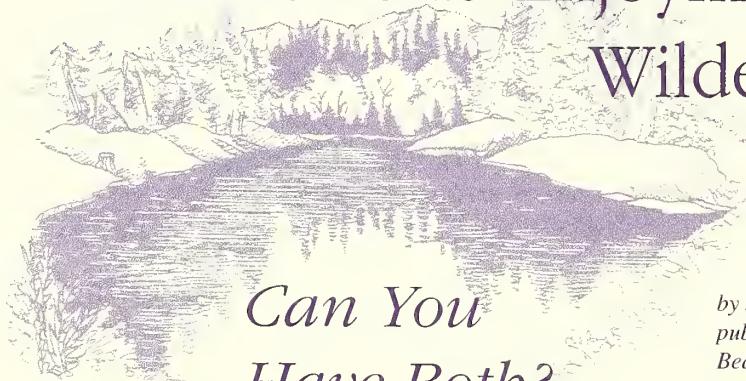
undersized culverts in the project areas to improve watersheds. In turn, these watershed and road improvements will enhance fisheries and wildlife habitat.

One 4,000-acre area of particular concern to land managers was granted emergency status by the Chief of the Forest Service. This status allows for quick action around the residential area of Hayden Lake and Fernan Lake on the Coeur d' Alene River District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

In this "emergency status" area, removal of dead and dying trees as well as watershed and road improvements may begin 30 days after the decision announcement. Forest Service staff were particularly concerned about the risk of wildland fire spreading to populated areas and the risk of beetles spreading to host trees on private land.

While no management action can stop the bark beetle epidemic, the recent course of action set in motion reflects a practical common sense approach in managing the epidemic while moving the forests to a long-term, sustainable condition.

## Protection and Enjoyment of Wilderness:



### *Can You Have Both?*

by Jack DeGolia,  
public affairs officer  
Beaverhead-Deerlodge  
National Forest

**F**orest Service managers of wilderness are faced with a quandary: how do you support public enjoyment of wilderness and, at the same time, protect the pristine qualities of these areas.

One answer is being explored by Beaverhead-Deerlodge and Bitterroot National Forests' staff who manage the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness. They are proposing changes to the wilderness's management plan to safeguard the pristine qualities of the wilderness as well as the quality of the wilderness experience by the public.

Those proposed changes include a free permit system and limiting group size visiting the 159,086-acre wilderness, located southwest of Anaconda. Anyone now entering the wilderness is asked to register, but the new proposal would require hikers and others in the wilderness to carry a permit to be filled out at trailheads.

"These permits are not meant to be restrictive but will give us a chance to share information, such as low impact camping techniques with visitors and also collect information on the number of people using the wilderness," said Wisdom District Ranger, Dennis Havig.

The proposal would limit groups to 16, including stock and people, and campfires couldn't be built closer than one-quarter mile of certain high-mountain lakes.

Havig added, "We're also proposing to establish the Goat Flat and East Fork Bitterroot Research Natural Areas. We want to eradicate weeds, provide clearer guidelines relating to fish stocking — get rid of trails that hikers have created, and reduce the size of some camping areas."

The proposal also would cap outfitting and it outlines how new outfitting proposals should be dealt with.

"We feel the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness is a unique place," said Havig. "These changes can only benefit future visitors: we'll be ensuring the Anaconda-Pintler will be as special a place for them as it is for us."

For more information, call Deb Gale at the Forest Service's Wisdom Ranger Station (406) 689-3243. The public comment period on the proposal ends July 15.

# A Message From the Regional Forester

No doubt you've heard that this fiscal year Region One is giving high priority to the identification of all our physical assets. That means cataloging every road, dam, bridge, visitor center, campground, physical improvement—everything that is considered "real property." This monumental task is being conducted nationwide throughout the Forest Service.

We recognize that this means other important work may not get done this summer. I want to make sure you understand the reason why.

The bottom line is that Congress, who through their yearly budget allocations, keep our doors open,

does not have confidence in our record-keeping. Our ability or inability to account for the dollars Congress gives us is a factor in almost every discussion we have with the appropriation committee.

The 1995 audit by the Office of the Inspector General gave the Forest Service an "adverse opinion" as a result of our financial records. Currently, the Forest Service and the Department of Defense, the only government entities with extensive real property, are preventing the government from clearing its financial statements.

Related to that problem is our inability to meet new accounting standards initiated by the Federal Government in the early 1990's. But the problem pre-dates those new standards. For the past 20 to 25 years, we just haven't given our ac-



**Dale Bosworth**

counting procedures priority. Now we have to pay the piper. We have to deliver. If we can fix these problems, I believe future Forest Service budgets will be positively affected.

Once we know what has to be done, our region is good at organizing and doing it. We have our assignment. Except for safety and fire protection, there's not a more important job this year or next, until we get it accomplished.

## Partners Help with Landmark Prescribed Burns

by Jennifer Berger and Kurt Hansen,  
Medora Ranger District,  
Dakota Prairie Grasslands

Dakota Prairie Grasslands recently joined forces with various Federal agencies to conduct the first prescribed burn in 50 years of Theodore Roosevelt National Park (TRNP) history.

The park is located within North Dakota's million-acre Little Missouri National Grasslands, managed by the Medora and Mckenzie Ranger Districts of R-1's Dakota Prairie Grasslands. Personnel involved in the burn included people from the two ranger districts, Wyoming Interagency Hotshots, National Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife.

*At right, l to r: Bob Farrell, Wyoming Hotshots; Gary Karamidjiam, Theodore Roosevelt NP; Rusty Jensen, TRNP. Rusty lights a test fire at the beginning of burning operations.*

On April 19, interagency team members ignited 472 acres within the park's south unit. Engines patrolled the black-lined perimeter of rolling, silver sage-dotted grasslands while firefighters kindled matted grasses. Flames fanned by light, southerly winds branded a mosaic pattern across the acreage, completing the burn within 6 hours. Close proximity to Interstate 94 and a busy county road added to the challenge of safely exercising this task.

The goal was to stimulate growth of native grasslands species to improve habitat and forage for park wildlife, including bison, elk, wild horses, mule deer and antelope. The burn will revitalize a segment of park ecosystem and reduce its hazardous fuel load, as well as help control exotic plants like crested wheatgrass and leafy spurge.



Dakota Prairie Grasslands staff hope to participate in future cooperative prescribed burn plans, including ones that cross USFS/NPS boundaries. TRNP anticipates reintroduction of fire into wilderness tracts of its north and south units. The intent is to mimic natural fire behavior by having periodic, low intensity burns to decrease the likelihood of a 1988 Yellowstone-like conflagration over the long term.

# America's Newest Ski Area Finishes First Season of Operation



*The lodge on top of Blacktail Mountain. Due to existing roads and skiable terrain, the lodge and parking lot are at the top of the hill, so you can ski from your car.*

by Allen Rowley, public affairs specialist  
Flathead National Forest

**Q**uietly and without fanfare, Blacktail Mountain Ski Area, located southwest of Kalispell, finished its first season of operation this April. It is this country's newest ski area and the first to be approved on Forest Service-managed lands since 1978.

The approval for a new ski area required much study, documentation, and analysis. The end result was a decision in May 1997 by the Flathead National Forest to permit the construction and operation of the ski area under special use permit. By November 1997 work on the site began.

The first skiers were able to use the new slopes in mid-December 1998. It is designed as a day-use area, as opposed to a destination resort. The facility is all on public land with no private land tracts for subdivision, housing, retail and lodging development.

The area has a fully accessible lodge at the top of the mountain with a cafeteria, restaurant, lounge, rental shop, and day care. Swan Lake Ranger Chuck Harris said "the lodge is so comfortable you feel like you are at a friend's house." Outside there are four lifts, including a triple chair, two double chairlifts, and a surface lift with a total capacity to handle up to 2,000 skiers.

With over 13 miles of ski runs and 1440 feet of vertical drop, there will always be room to ski even when the lifts may be at peak capacity. In keeping with the family orientation, 70 percent of the terrain is designed for intermediates. The remaining 30 percent is equally split for beginners and experts.

Blacktail Mountain developed repeat customers immediately upon opening. Now that the first season is over, word of the new area is spreading and next year looks to be even stronger.



*Inside the lodge, just waiting for some snow and customers.*



## Skier Visits Up Over Last Season



by Pat Antonich, RO recreation management assistant

Total skier visits on the 12 alpine ski areas that operated on national forests in northern Idaho and Montana this past ski season were up 10 percent over the previous season.

The season started off slow due to lack of snow and severe cold weather prior to Christmas. Heavy snows later in the season, particularly in western Montana and northern Idaho, helped make up for the slow start. The continued high Canadian exchange rate continues to affect visitation from Canadian skiers.

The most popular ski areas during the 1998-1999 season were Big Mountain, Flathead National Forest; Bridger Bowl, Gallatin National Forest; and Red Lodge, Custer National Forest.

# Trapper Creek Job Corps Students Volunteer for Community



Working on buildings. Left to right, Shaun Mohan, Justin Reynolds.



Putting in new dirt floors.  
Left to right, Perry Hamilton, Scott Fisher, Jeremy Martinez.



Painting corrals. Front to back, Amanda Vincent, Maureen Serawop, and Ron Murphy.

by Dixie L. Dies, public affairs officer  
Bitterroot National Forest

**O**n an exceptionally beautiful spring day, some 200 students from Trapper Creek Job Corps were at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds in Hamilton, Montana, trimming trees, painting grandstands and corrals, washing and painting buildings, and putting in "new" dirt floors.

The students, aged 16 to 24, were volunteering their services as part of National Youth Service Day. Except for 11 students on special assignments, the entire corps participated.

National Youth Service Day, sponsored by Youth Service America, has been held across the nation for the past 11 years. This year, Job Corps was one of the national partners for the event. The day has been set aside to recognize the year-round service and volunteer efforts of young people, recruit a generation of participants, and promote young people as resources to their communities.

"It is really a win/win situation," said Jim Kaney, deputy director for Trapper Creek Job Corps,

"Students can use their trade skills as well as learn to support their community. And the community got some work done that otherwise probably wouldn't have been completed."

## "Happy Trails"

# Bringing a Dream to Reality

by Scott Bixler, RO realty specialist

**O**n Saturday, April 24, scores of participants joined Missoula District Ranger Dave Stack and Missoula city officials at Southgate Mall in celebrating the dedication of Missoula's Bitterroot Branch Trail.

The "rails with trails" project will provide a multipurpose trail, 2 1/2 miles long and 10 feet wide, along the Montana Rail Link's right-of-way.

This asphalt-paved trail will allow bicyclists and pedestrians to avoid most Missoula streets and parking lots while

traveling from the southern part of Missoula to McCormick Park and the Riverfront Trail system.

The Forest Service's participation consisted of the RO lands staff issuing a trail easement to authorize public access to a tract of National Forest System land located at the Regional transportation facility at 14th and Catlin Streets.

With the issuance of this easement, a community dream of over 20 years is close to becoming a reality.



Left to right: Dave Stack, Bruce Allen.

# Center Celebrates 100,000th Visitor

by Paul Lloyd-Davies, partnership coordinator  
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, Lewis and Clark National Forest



Jane Schmoyer-Weber, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center director, congratulates Ted McKain of Kalispell as the center's 100,000th visitor. In the background are business management assistant Kaye Dobrocke and interpreter Huel Willis.

Several days shy of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center's first anniversary, the 100,000th visitor walked through the door April 30. Visiting Great Falls to perform in a jazz festival, Ted McKain of Kalispell was in for a big surprise.

"I'm in shock! I've never won anything before," McKain said, as he was greeted by center staff holding a banner, bouquet of helium balloons and a gift bag packed with Lewis-and-Clark-related items from the Portage Cache store. He also received an annual family pass, which was purchased by center staff and donated for the event.

In an interesting twist, McKain, 50, a Great Falls High School graduate, is a nephew of Interpretive Center volunteer Lois Reynolds.

Noting that 60,000 visitors had been expected at the center its first year, center director Jane Schmoyer-Weber said the higher visitation pointed out the center's quick ascendancy as a premier Montana attraction.

## Volunteers at the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center

### Center hours:

Memorial Day Weekend  
to Labor Day  
open daily  
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Labor Day to Sept. 30  
open daily  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Oct. 1 to Memorial Day  
Weekend  
open Tuesday-Saturday  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and  
Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

Closed Mondays  
during the winter.

Volunteers have played an important part in the good service at the Center. "Without our volunteers, the public would not be served as they are now," said center director Jane Schmoyer Weber. "Their contribution the first year equated to seven full-time staff."



The center staff prepare for the busy summer season. From left: front row, Paul Lloyd-Davies, partnership coordinator; Steve Schaller, interpreter; Billy Maxwell, interpreter; Jane Weber, director; middle row, Huel Willis, interpreter; Neil Wynn, engineering technician; Ann Goldhahn, education coordinator; Dionne Half, visitor information clerk; back row, Sue Buchel, interpretive services specialist; Kaye Dobrocke, business management assistant; Dee Pretty On Top, visitor information clerk. Not pictured: Lynette Scriver, visitor information clerk.



by Zane Fulbright, archaeologist  
Red River Ranger District, Nez Perce NF

**A**s part of Idaho Archeology Week, Elk City students spent time with Red River Ranger District Archaeologist Zane Fulbright, learning to excavate and identify artifacts. Kindergarten kids, already familiar with pottery from watching the "Sherdy the Storyteller" video, excitedly identified potsherds. Sherdy, by the way, is an animated potsherd - and a potsherd is a pottery fragment.

Lithic tools and historic logging and mining artifacts were identified by the

older students as they pulled each item out of the ground. All of the kids, from kindergarten through eighth grade, took part in "bucket digs" — wash tubs filled with dirt or sawdust that were seeded with artifacts. After excavating their "pit," each student watched as their dirt was screened, hoping their bucket had the least artifacts that had gone undetected.

The higher level math class then took a turn at orienteering and staking out a pit, using good old geometry and the Pythagorean theorem to make certain that their pits were square.

After the impromptu math lecture and compass lesson, we went outside (after the fresh end-of-April snowfall) and laid out test pits. The kids did a super job! By the end of the session, all the kids had staked

a pit and navigated their way around a compass course set up in the school yard. Even their teacher finally learned the basics of using a compass!

The final program of the week had the fifth and sixth graders practicing oral history interviews. They wrote histories of their moms for Mother's Day, and interviewed friends and relatives to gather information. They practiced by preparing questions and interviewing each other. We even did some taping so the kids could hear how they sounded.

The students will use their skills even more when they help to compile a history of the Elk City School, interviewing members of the community and former Elk City students. They're going to do great!



## Talking About Customer Service and Doing Something About It!

by Gloria Weisgerber, RO customer service coordinator

**T**here's no shortage of good customer service in Region One. But there is a shortage of a region-wide network to plan for and support staff efforts to encourage a customer-driven organization.

On April 8 in Missoula, representatives from almost all the forests and units in the RO gathered to take stock of the region's customer service program. They discussed ways to strengthen our customer service network, to make our program more visible and consistent, to secure buy-in by staff, and to encourage more and better training.

Participants were full of ideas and suggestions for priorities. The first task outlined by the group is now accomplished. There is a formal customer service network in place. Forest supervisors and directors have selected an official contact person for each forest as well as for each district and RO unit.

The goal of the new organization will be to lead self-managing forest and RO staff unit teams and to network across the region in an effort to achieve individual as well as regional objectives.

A conference to support R-1's customer service program will be held May 16-18, 2000, in Great Falls.

## Customer Service Corner

**Babete Anderson**, with the Beartooth District, Custer National Forest, recently got her name and picture in the local Red Lodge newspaper, the *Carbon County News*. The paper nominated Babete for that week's Random Acts of Kindness award "in recognition of her unfailingly sunny manner in dealing with the public. At a time when speaking with government employees is generally less fruitful and enjoyable than talking with an answering machine, Babete's cheerful demeanor and helpful service are a breath of fresh big-sky air."

Hats off to you, Babete, for that smile in your voice!

## Tragic Plane Crash in Wilderness Claimed Ten Lives

# A Personal Remembrance

by Cindy Schacher, archaeological technician  
Nez Perce National Forest

**I**t was June 11, 1979, a beautiful spring day, bright with sunshine and hope for a great summer. The clean air, with a hint of pine, is still fresh in my mind.

My father, Art Seamans, was the district ranger at Moose Creek. Our family was fortunate to spend our summers at the remote ranger station. The years spent at Moose Creek were full of wonderment, learning, and enjoying the great outdoors.

My mother, sister, and I had flown into Moose Creek Ranger Station the day before annual spring orientation in a Cessna 206. We were originally scheduled to fly in the following day on a DC-3 with the majority of the district crew, but my mom decided we should go in ahead of time so that she could bake a cake for everyone on orientation day.

As we settled in for the summer season on June 11, we sat on the wood steps of our wall tent awaiting the arrival of the DC-3.

Spring orientation was a time for all the employees to get acquainted and learn about the job they would be doing. It was a fun time, a time when the Forest Service truly felt like family. Every year new recruits arrived to try their hand at the grueling work of the backcountry and get to know and experience this wonderfully rugged country.

Aviation has been part of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness since 1932 when the first airstrip was completed at Moose Creek. Clearing the strip of its thick vegetation was difficult and took many hours of human muscle and mule power to accomplish the job. In 1959 the second, longer airstrip was constructed.

We were anxiously awaiting the arrival of the DC-3 when we got the word that something was wrong. Grangeville dispatch had lost contact with the plane. Everyone was shocked and felt helpless.

Within minutes the worst was confirmed. The DC-3 was down in the Selway River.

The next few moments and hours were a blur. The one vision that has stuck clearly in my mind was that of a young man riding up to us on a white horse. The horse was my dad's, Trigger, and the young man was Bryant Stringham who had been on the DC-3! He had escaped relatively unscathed, one of two passengers who survived to tell of their experience.

We learned later that an engine had overheated, causing the pilots to shut it down. Then the other engine blew a piston, which started a fire and caused the propeller to seize, twisting the engine from the plane's wing. The pilots did their best to land the powerless, unbalanced aircraft in the river at Dry Bar, the only straight and quiet stretch of the plunging Selway River, but the plane fell a few feet short.

On that sunny spring day, June 11, 1979, ten people lost their lives in one of earth's most magnificent places, the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. They were on their way to a few months of adventure and hard work to help manage and preserve that rugged land.

That there were two survivors, Bryant Stringham and Charles Dietz, is testimony to the skills of pilot Marvin (Whitey) Hachmeister and co-pilot John Slingerland, both who lost their lives.

Three of the passenger victims were career employees: engineers Ronald Hagan and Robert "Andy" Taylor, and Moose Creek resource assistant Donald Easthouse. Patrick McGreevey, Philip Leber, Catherine Hodgin, and Robert Cook were seasonal employees. Thomas Terkeurst was volunteering for the summer. Ten died, but their loss reverberated across the country, touching the lives of hundreds.

Twenty years have passed, but those who lost their lives in the line of duty that tragic day will not be forgotten. Please take a moment to honor these fine people, forever members of our Forest Service family.



# Coming Events

## Marking 50th Anniversary of

### Mann Gulch Fire

by Maggie Pittman, public affairs officer  
Helena National Forest

**O**n August 5, 1949, a lightning-caused wildfire entrapped a smokejumper crew and a firefighter in the steep and rugged Mann Gulch on the Helena National Forest. Before the fire was controlled, the blaze took the lives of 13 men and burned nearly 5,000 acres.

Mann Gulch was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places in May, 1999. This designation will ensure the memory of the Mann Gulch fire is shared and held as a significant part of Montana history. (An article on the Mann Gulch fire and the August 5 commemoration will be covered in the July-August NRN issue.)

Join the Helena National Forest in commemoration of the lives of the men lost in the Mann Gulch Fire. Those events open to the public include:

#### Hosted Hikes

The Helena National Forest will offer a series of hosted hikes into Mann Gulch on June 12, 26, July 10, and August 1, 14, and 28. Reservation required. Call Helena Ranger District for information. Phone (406) 449-5490.

#### Thursday, August 5

Commemoration Ceremony, Montana State Capitol, west lawn, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Dinner and dance, hosted by the National Smokejumper Association, 5:00 p.m. to midnight.

“Out of the Ashes” song and dance tribute, performed by The Artists Group, 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center; free admission.

“Firefight: Stories from the Frontlines” - A Learning Channel film dedicated to wildland firefighters. Haynes Auditorium in the Montana Historical Society building; three showings throughout afternoon; free admission.

#### Friday, August 6 & Saturday, August 7

Interpretive programs at Meriwether Picnic Area, Gates of the Mountains. Join interpretive specialists in highlighting the Mann Gulch Fire and firefighting in the last 50 years. Transportation by personal boat or public tour boat is required.

#### Saturday, August 7

Montana Power Company’s Summer Symphony Concert will feature works honoring the Mann Gulch Fire and Lewis and Clark’s Corps of Discovery; free admission.

#### For more information contact:

Helena Ranger District  
(406) 449-5490,  
or the forest headquarters  
(406) 449-5201, ext. 266.  
Visit the Mann Gulch web site:  
[www.fs.fed.us/r1/helena](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/helena)

The Lives  
Lost at  
Mann Gulch



David Navon



Robert Bennett



Leonard Piper



Silas Thompson



Henry Thol



Newton  
Thompson



William Hellman



Phillip McVey



Eldon Diettert



James Harrison



Marvin Sherman



Stanley Reba



Joseph Sylvia

# Idaho Forest Supervisors Salute Important Partner

by Jennifer Jones, public affairs officer  
Boise National Forest

At their annual meeting in Boise, Idaho national forest supervisors recently presented **Yvonne Ferrell**, director of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) with a special award for the key role she has played in enhancing recreation on national forests in the Gem State. Under Yvonne's leadership, the IDPR has provided the Forest Service with millions of dollars over the last few years through different grant programs to construct and re-construct campgrounds, develop access to lakes and reservoirs, maintain trails, and



*Idaho Forest Supervisors present Yvonne Ferrell with a photo collage for being a great partner.*

conduct other recreation development and maintenance activities.

"One of the things that really distinguishes Yvonne," states Boise National Forest Supervisor Dave Rittenhouse, "is that she understands that in Idaho—where the Federal Government manages 65 percent of the land—the State must look beyond the boundaries of the State parks to provide outdoor recreation opportunities."

Ferrell, director of the IDPR since 1987, believes firmly in partnerships. "Together we can do so much more than we can do individually and we're all serving the same publics," said Ferrell. "I think that State and Federal partnerships are crucial in order to provide the highest level of service at the lowest cost. I just don't know any other way to operate."

## Ranger Gets Message Across on Job Safety

by Sue Phillips, support services specialist  
Clearwater Ranger District, Nez Perce NF

The Clearwater Ranger District's safety committee, Safety Awareness For Employees (Team S.A.F.E.) awarded District Ranger **Darcy Pederson** a \$500 spot award. Darcy is committed to safety and actively involved with Team S.A.F.E. At a recently conducted job hazard analysis workshop, Darcy taught the basic introduction.

She is known among employees for the safety incentives she gives to raise safety awareness. One year at the beginning of field season, T-shirts sporting the safety emphasis items for the coming year and "Safety Doesn't Hurt" slogan on the back were distributed to district employees.

Also, Darcy and the team have been committed to supporting and assisting the forest's safety group, Safecom, with various projects, documents and activities. Members of the district team S.A.F.E. are: Sandra Braasch, John Fantini, Becky Winkler, David Harper, Perry Edwards, Michelle Putz and Sue Phillips.



*Clearwater Forest Supervisor Bruce Bernhardt presents safety award to Darcy Pederson at a Clearwater District meeting last month.*

Photo by Laura Smith, public affairs.

## Petroni Recognized by Coalition

by Jack de Golia, public affairs officer  
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Madison District Ranger **Mark Petroni**, with the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, was given the annual Rick Hutchinson Stewardship Award by the

Greater Yellowstone Coalition, at the group's meeting in West Yellowstone, on June 4.

The award is given each year to a Federal employee who, in the spirit of the late Hutchinson, a National Park Service researcher, exemplifies the qualities of leadership and dedication needed to preserve and protect the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. Petroni was lauded for his agency work managing off-highway vehicles and decommissioning roads as well as his personal work with the Madison County planning board in trying to maintain open space in the Madison County.



*Mark Petroni at the Greater Yellowstone Coalition meeting.*

# Secretary of Agriculture Awards Weber and Gorman

by Dale Dufour, RO public affairs specialist

Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman presented the 1999 USDA Secretary's Honor Awards on June 9, 1999, in Washington, D.C. Two of the thirteen recipients of the prestigious national awards were from the Northern Region—**Jane Schmoyer-Weber** and **Dale Gorman**.

Regional Forester Dale Bosworth said that Jane and Dale are both being recognized for their "excellence and leadership in fund raising, designing, building and operating the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in a true spirit of partnership." The grand opening of the interpretive center, located along the Missouri River in Great Falls, was on the 4th of July weekend, 1998.

Jane, project coordinator for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center since 1989, is the center director now that it's operational. According to Bosworth, "Jane's guidance and outstanding ability to coordinate and motivate people has brought a community vision full circle to the present \$6 million interpretive center."

Dale Gorman retired as supervisor of the Lewis and Clark National Forest in 1994. Bosworth stated that, "Upon his retirement, Dale was asked to join the board of directors of L&C Fund, Inc., and served as the major fund raiser, contributing thousands of hours to the successful fund raising activities.



Former Lewis & Clark Forest Supervisor Dale Gorman.

From the onset of the project, he led the way to establish solid partnerships and working relationships with the many interested organizations, groups, agencies, and individuals."

## Outstanding Lands Work Rewarded

by Scott Bixler, RO realty specialist

This year 13 individuals were recognized at the R-1 Lands Program Officers' meeting for their outstanding contributions to the Northern Region's real estate management program. The following awards were presented in Coeur D'Alene at the annual meeting:

The 1999 Director's Award for Lands: **Bob Dennee**, staff officer, Gallatin NF, for Bob's leadership, vision, and tenacity in pursuing the consummation of the Big Sky Lumber Company (Gallatin Land Consolidation) and Royal Teton Ranch projects.

Lands Special Achievement Award: **Jim Sauser**, lands forester, Kootenai NF, for his work towards the relicensing of the Cabinet Gorge and Noxon Rapids hydro-power generation facilities. Jim was instrumental in helping to create and apply the innovative and nationally-recognized collaborative "living license" approach to hydropower relicensing.

Lands Special Achievement Award: **John Hickey**, regional appraiser, Gallatin NF, for completing appraisals on the New World Mine, Royal Teton Ranch, and the Gallatin Land Consolidation projects.

Lands Special Achievement Award: **Dory Engle**, regional realty specialist, Clearwater NF for her thorough and timely processing of title packages, and for the assistance, guidance and training she provided to Region One Forests in the title area.

Lands Special Achievement Award: **Mark Lodine**, assistant regional attorney, Office of the General Counsel, for his work on the legislated land exchange involving Big Sky Lumber and for the Royal Teton Ranch acquisition. Mark's help on these complex cases allowed the Forest Service to meet the timeframes set out in legislation and the needs of the proponents.

Awards went to individuals involved with two significant land acquisitions on the Gallatin National Forest. The Gallatin Land Consolidation acquisition and Phase

1 of the Royal Teton Ranch acquisition were complex land adjustments that required close coordination over several years with the proponents, the Montana congressional delegation, county commissioners, conservation groups, other Federal and State agencies, and the general public. These two cases conveyed over 100,000 acres in four mountain ranges into public ownership.

The following people earned cash awards for their professionalism and the personal sacrifices they made to complete R-1 work over the past several years:

**Ron Erickson**, regional land adjustment specialist, RO.

**Bob Dennee**, staff officer, Gallatin NF.

**Jane Darnell**, former realty specialist, RO, and current Grand River District Ranger.

**John Hickey**, regional appraiser, Gallatin NF.

**Dale Harcharik**, former appraiser (now retired), Gallatin NF.

**Gina Gahagan**, legal instruments examiner, Gallatin NF, Bozeman.

**Kim Zier**, appraiser, Lolo NF.

**Dorylee Engle**, regional title specialist, Clearwater NF.



*l to r: Bob Dennee, Dory Engle, John Hickey, Jim Sauser, and Mark Lodine.*



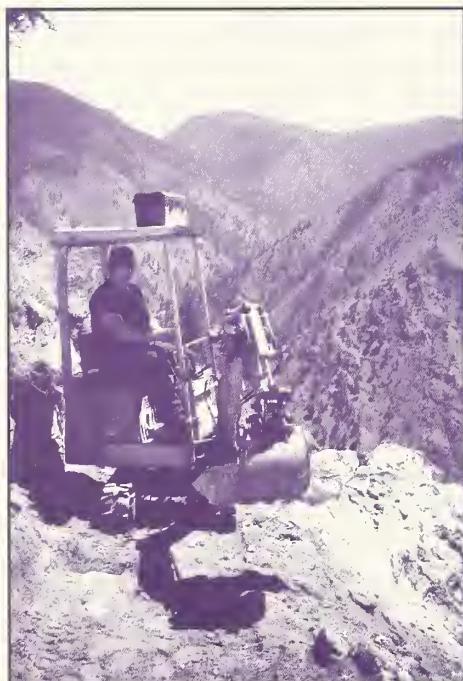
*Gary Morrison (l) presenting Ron Erickson (r) with cash award..*

# Steve Dalgliesh Named Contractor of the Year

by Laura Smith, public affairs assistant  
Nez Perce National Forest

The Northern Region works with hundreds of contractors a year, many in the area of trail construction. The Region recognizes those particular contractors who have shown outstanding dedication to quality trail work with an annual award. **Steve Dalgliesh**, of McKenzie Creek Construction, White Bird, Idaho, recently received the Northern Region Contractor of the Year award for the 1998 construction season.

Steve goes the extra mile to meet the needs of trail design and minimize the effects of trail construction on adjacent resources. With his 1998 contract, Steve used a mini-excavator on the Bullion Mine Trail #88, a trail which has 42 switchbacks within a distance of 3 miles. A lot of the rock work was done without explosives to protect the nearby Wind River Bridge, which entailed a lot of hand work and use of jackhammers. The result was an extraordinary effort well deserving of the regional award.



Steve Dalgliesh in his mini-excavator on the Bullion Mine Trail #88.



## Rocky Mountain District Ranger Selected

by Bonnie Dearing, public affairs specialist  
Lewis and Clark National Forest

**Michael Muñoz** has been selected to be the new ranger for the Rocky Mountain Ranger District, Lewis and Clark National Forest. Muñoz comes to the forest from the Ashland Ranger District, Custer National Forest, where he has served as operations leader for four years. The Muñoz family should arrive in Choteau in mid-June.

Prior to his stint on the Custer, Muñoz worked as range management specialist on two ranger districts of the Coconino National Forest based in Flagstaff, Arizona. He also worked as range management specialist for the Dillon Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, for seven years.

Originally from southern California, Muñoz attended Humboldt State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in range management with a minor in soil science.

"I'm looking forward to working in grizzly country," said Muñoz. His interests include hunting waterfowl, upland game birds and white tail deer. Also, he participates in field hunter trials with his two yellow labrador dogs.

Muñoz's wife, Mary, enjoys being involved in community activities. The couple have two children—son Brandin (6 years) and daughter Nicole (5 years).



Greg Munther

## Arnold Bolle Conservation Award Goes to Greg Munther

Former Ninemile District Ranger **Greg Munther** was recognized May 8 by Missoula conservationists for his lifetime work to preserve western Montana's land, water and wildlife. Munther was presented with the prestigious Arnold Bolle Conservation Professional Award, given to a resource professional for achievements in natural resource management.

In giving the award, retired Lolo Forest Supervisor Orville Daniels cited Greg's leadership in doing what was right for the land and the resources. "He was the one working behind the scenes with wolf recovery in the Ninemile Valley, to ensure that the management of national forest lands was compatible with the wolves coming back," Orville stated. Orville also pointed out that during a period of intensive timber harvest in the upper Ninemile Valley, Greg enacted a moratorium on national forest timber cutting because of the cumulative effects on fish, wildlife, and the visual resource.

Greg, trained as a fisheries biologist, was district ranger at Ninemile from 1988-1998. He retired August 19, 1998, after 31 years with the Forest Service.

# Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen Win National Award



*l to r: Kathy McAllister, Deputy Regional Forester; Helen Engle, President, Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen; Rodd Richardson, Forest Supervisor, Bitterroot National Forest.*



*Original Charter Members l to r: Gene Tingle, Marion Tingle, Vina Spencer, Irene Gibford, Ron Gibford, Harriet Loesch.*



*by Dixie L. Dies, public affairs officer  
Bitterroot National Forest*

**F**or 23 years, the Bitterroot National Forest has had a partner and friend in the **Back Country Horsemen**. That organization has dedicated itself to assisting the forest in innumerable trail and facility construction and maintenance, and backcountry cleanup projects. This year they were given the highest recognition the Forest Service can bestow on volunteers: the Chief's National Award for Volunteer Services.

Their volunteer efforts on the Bitterroot National Forest have ranged from rolling up and removing telephone wire to their most current project: constructing the 10-mile Coyote Coulee trail. In addition, they have made monetary contributions to the Nine-mile Pack String, Leave No Trace program, and Eagle Scout projects.

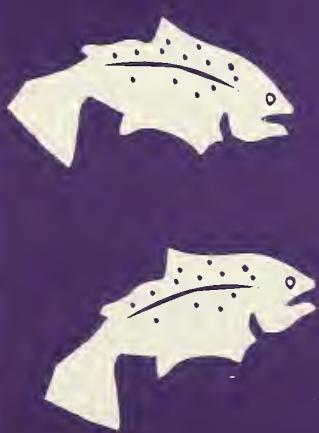
Deputy Regional Forester Kathy McAllister expressed the Chief's and the Region's appreciation to the organization

during a public open house hosted by the Bitterroot National Forest.

The Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen join three other National Volunteer award winners from the Bitterroot Valley: 1995, George Regan; 1996, Dot Goodrich; and 1997, Carolynne Merrell. Other nominees this year were the Salmon Mountain Lookout Volunteers, and Amber A. Rodriguez.

## Big Bucks for Cutthroat Trout Habitat

*by Rick Stowell, RO regional fisheries program leader*



The Regional Office fisheries staff were successful in their pursuit of big dollars for the improvement and restoration of native cutthroat trout habitat.

A total of \$400,000 was available from Forest Service inland fisheries funds to Regions 1, 2, 3, and 4 for this work. Region 1 came away with \$92,500 to work on westslope cutthroat trout in the upper Missouri River Basin and Yellowstone cutthroat trout in the Yellowstone River Basin.

R-1 got an additional \$40,000 to support Bruce May, fisheries program leader on the Gallatin National Forest. Bruce is on a 12-month detail as cutthroat trout coordinator for all the regions involved in the project.

The primary purpose for the habitat funding and Bruce's work is to show positive field efforts to restore these species, which have been petitioned for listing as threatened and endangered (T&A). The funding is also to support the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks efforts to restore cutthroat in the State and set a supportable framework so that the species would not require T&A listing.

With luck, Bruce and the other regional fisheries program leaders will find a stable funding source for future work.

## Steve Arno Retires

**Steve Arno**, research forester at the Rocky Mountain Research Station's Fire Sciences Lab, retired May 28 after 31 years of Federal service. Steve's first Federal employment was as a student trainee park ranger and naturalist in the Western Region of the National Park Service from 1963 to 1965. He then attended graduate school at the University of Montana, earning a master of forestry and a Ph.D. in forestry and plant science.

In 1970, Steve was appointed forester on the Newport Ranger District, Kaniksu National Forest. The next year he was employed by the Northern Region to assist development of a habitat type classification for Montana's forests. In 1973, Steve joined the Intermountain Station as a research forester, studying forest succession and fire ecology. In 1979, he was assigned to the fire effects and prescribed fire unit. During the 1990's he helped devise and test combinations of silvicultural cuttings and prescribed burning to help sustain ponderosa pine/fir and whitebark pine ecosystems. Several of these studies were done as part of the Bitterroot Ecosystem Management Research Project.

Steve and his wife Bonnie, a nurse in the Missoula public schools, plan to remain on



Steve Arno

their 60-acre pine forest at Florence, where Steve intends to do some freelance writing about forest ecology and management. Their sons Matthew and Nathan are graduates of the University of Montana's School of Forestry and are self-employed forestry contractors living in the Huson and Stevensville, Montana, areas.

Asked about his career, Steve commented, "The most memorable feature has been the opportunity to team up with so many interesting and dedicated people in the Forest Service and associated agencies and universities."

### BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

#### Awards & Promotions

BRABENDER, JOE, forestry technician, P-Burg, promotion, forester, Bridger-Teton NF  
 COOK, KIRBY, supervisory forestry technician, Sawtooth NF, promotion, supervisory forestry technician, SO  
 HENSEL, ERIC, forestry technician, Gila NF, promotion, forestry technician, Wisdom RD  
 JATZCYNISKI, MIKE, computer specialist, promotion, computer specialist, WO, Ft. Collins, CO  
 KIRKELIE, LINDA, computer assistant, SO, promotion, computer specialist  
 O'NEILL, TIM, forestry technician, Boise NF, promotion, GIS specialist, SO  
 SCHOTT, LIND, SSS, promotion, Madison RD

#### Reassessments & Transfers

FISHER, JACKIE, criminal investigator, reassignment, Butte RD  
 PACHECO, ANTHONY, forestry technician, Gila NF, reassignment, forestry technician, Dillon RD  
 SCHAEFFER, JIM, forester, Dillon RD, reassignment, Bighorn NF

#### New Employees

ENRIQUEZ, BARBARA, student trainee, Wildlife, Wisdom RD  
 GARCIA, ROBERTO, student trainee, Rangeland Management, Madison RD  
 HOGAN, DAN, forestry technician, career-conditional appointment, Wise River RD  
 MURRAY, CLARENCE, range technician, career-conditional appointment, Jefferson RD  
 OPLIN, JON, forestry technician, career-conditional appointment, Jefferson RD

### BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

#### Awards & Promotions

AGNER, SHIRLEY, financial assistant, SO, QSI  
 ALMQUIST, MARGARET, forestry technician, West Fork RD, promotion  
 ANDREWS, KEN, realty specialist, SO, QSI  
 CASE, BILL, center director, Anaconda JCC, performance award  
 FUCHS, JAMES, supervisory social services assistant, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award  
 GIBSON, NANCY, forestry technician, SO  
 dispatcher, promotion  
 GOSLIN, WILLIAM, forestry technician, West Fork RD, promotion  
 JAKOBER, MIKE, fish biologist, West Fork RD, promotion  
 JOHNS, MICHAEL, supervisory social services assistant, Trapper Creek JCC, promotion  
 KAMPS AMBER, forester, West Fork RD, promotion  
 KANEY, JAMES, deputy center director, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award  
 KNEZ, NORMA, cook supervisor, Trapper Creek JCC, promotion  
 MARTZ, PEGGY, administrative officer, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award  
 McCORMACK, ANNEMARIE, community health nurse, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award  
 McCORMACK, JAMES, forester, Darby RD, QSI  
 OPPEGARD, CHARLES W., forestry technician, Darby RD, performance award  
 PRICE, JEANETTE, center director, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award  
 RUSSELL, LARRY, supervisory forestry technician, Darby RD, performance award

## New Employees on the Bitterroot

by Cass Cairns, information assistant  
 Bitterroot National Forest

Bitterroot National Forest Supervisor Rodd Richardson announced the selection of a new district ranger for the Darby-Sula Ranger District—**Craig Bobzien**, currently district ranger for the Tonasket Ranger District, Okanogan National Forest in Washington State. He's to report to Darby Monday, June 21.

Craig brings with him a wide range of experience starting in 1978, as a forester on the Sheridan Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, working with minerals, timber and silviculture. Bobzien has since worked on other forests in Idaho and Washington. His work has involved timber presale and sale administration, range, soils, watershed, recreation, wilderness, contract administration, NEPA, restoration, and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

Richardson also announced that **Marilee Bobzien** (Craig Bobzien's wife) as the new Bitterroot National Forest budget and finance officer. Marilee has over 19 years of experience in budget and administration from the Beaverhead, Clearwater, and Okanogan National Forests. Marilee is currently the



Marilee and Craig Bobzien

Okanogan National Forest budget and finance officer.

According to Forest Supervisor Rodd Richardson, "it is not unusual to see both a husband and wife working for the same agency but it is unusual to find a career couple that are so highly qualified for two vacancies on the same Forest at the same time."

The Bobzien's have a 9-year-old daughter Kayla who loves tap dancing and soccer. Both Craig and Marilee enjoy fly fishing. Craig also likes telemark skiing and coaching youth soccer.

Craig hails from Iowa Falls, Iowa; Marilee is a native Montanan who grew up in Billings. Craig mentioned, "We are looking forward to moving to the Bitterroot valley. We really appreciate the small town atmosphere where you can wave to folks and they wave back."

# Personnel Actions

UNDERWOOD, RITA, support services supervisor, Darby RD, performance award  
WINDHORST, BRUCE, supervisory forestry technician, Stevensville RD, promotion  
WOFFORD, PRENTIS, supervisory teacher, Trapper Creek JCC, performance award

## Reassignments & Transfers

BOBZIEN CRAIG, district ranger, Okanogan NF, reassignment, Darby RD  
BOBZIEN, MARILEE, budget & accounting officer, Okanogan NF, budget & accounting officer, SO  
ELZIG, KATHY, forestry technician, SO dispatcher, transferred, BLM  
JACKSON, SHARI, personnel clerk, SO, to accounting technician, reassignment, SO  
LAGODICH, CAROL, natural resource recreation manager, Gifford Pinchot NF, reassignment, Darby RD  
SEBBAS, SUE, office automation clerk, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, reassignment, SO  
STONER, DOUG, forestry technician, Nez Perce NF, reassignment, Darby RD  
THOMAS, KIMBERLY, forestry technician, transferred, National Park Service

## Reinstatements

STUCKER VERLA, personnel clerk, SO

## Retirements & Resignations

LORANGER, JIM, supervisory social services assistant, Trapper Creek JCC

## New Employees

DEBARBER, JASON, forestry technician, Sula RD, term appointment  
DEMOSS, DOUG, forestry technician, Darby RD, term appointment  
DEVINE, DIANE, personnel clerk, SO, term appointment  
LOESCH, ELLEN, office automation clerk, Stevensville RD, term appointment  
MCKEE, JOHN, forestry technician, West Fork RD, term appointment  
MOODY, KATHY, forestry technician, West Fork RD  
NEIDHARDT, TANYA, forestry technician, West Fork RD, term appointment  
VINGL, DAVE, editorial assistant, Stevensville RD, term appointment

## DAKOTA PRAIRIE GRASSLANDS

### Awards & Promotions

LOWE, JAMES, GIS strategy spec, SO, promotion  
MCNEILL, MIKE, rangeland mgmt spec, SO, promotion  
WALTOS, ARLIS, secretary, SO, promotion

## New Employees

Maxwell, Judith, botanist, SO

## FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

MULLINS, DARLENE, budget and accounting officer, SO, promotion  
KOENEKER, MARK, computer programmer analyst, SO, promotion  
DOBROCKE, KAYE, administrative officer, Hungry Horse RD, promotion  
PARADISE, JAMIE, grants & agreements assistant, SO, promotion  
ROWLEY, ALLEN, public affairs specialist, SO, performance award  
APPLEKAMP JR, EARL, supervisory civil engineer, SO, extra effort award  
ASH, GORDON, forester, Hungry Horse RD, extra effort award  
BLACK, MYRA, rangeland management specialist, SO, extra effort award  
MORINE, JERRY, civil engineer technician,

SO, extra effort award  
KOSS, ALAN, forester, Hungry Horse RD extra effort award  
GRONLEY, JAMIE, civil engineer technician, SO, extra effort award

## Reassignments & Transfers

HESS, JERALD, forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD, reassignment  
SENNER, VIENNA, voucher examiner, SO, reassignment  
**Retirements & Resignations**  
OVERLY, DON, administrative officer, SO, retirement voluntary  
TVEIDT, THEODORE, forestry technician, SO, retirement voluntary

## GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

CHANDLER, RITA, forestry technician, SO, promotion  
HART, DAVE, forestry technician, SO, promotion  
MOSBY, CINDY, computer specialist, SO, promotion  
NEFF-SHEA, JULIE, forester, SO, promotion  
PFEIFER, BILL, contract specialist, SO, promotion

## Reassignments & Transfers

CRAWFORD, DENNIS, supervisory forestry technician, Clearwater NF, reassignment, forestry technician (fire), Big Timber RD  
INMAN, RICHARD, supervisory biological scientist, SO, reassignment, deputy forest supervisor  
KLARICH, ROBERT, forester, IPNF, reassignment, forester (Lands), SO  
WYTANIS, JOHN, forester, Livingston RD, reassignment, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, forester (Rec)

## New Employees

JOHNSON, RON, meteorological technician, career-conditional appointment, SO  
NORTON, BETH, office automation clerk, career-conditional appointment, SO  
REED, LIBBY, resource clerk, career-conditional appointment, Hebgen Lake RD  
ROSS, DEMARCUS, student trainee (Forestry), Hebgen Lake RD  
TALIAFERRO, DIANE, forester, SCEP conversion, Livingston RD  
VITT, CHAUNTELLE, rangeland management specialist trainee, Big Timber RD

## HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

HARPER, ARCHIE, bio science tech, Townsend RD, promotion  
LAING, LARRY, promotion to regional soil scientist in R-9  
THORNBURG, JOHN, superv for tech, Helena RD, promotion

## Reassignments & Transfers

HERGETT, PAMELA, civil engineer, from Klamath NF to Helena SO  
HERRIN, MIKE, wildlife biologist, from Colville NF to Lincoln RD, reassignment

## Retirements & Resignations

GILBERT, SAM, forester, retired

## New Employees

NUNN-HATFIELD, CAROL, writer-editor, Townsend RD  
PLUMMER, JEANNE, admin asst, SO  
SANCHEZ, BRIAN, wildlife student, Townsend RD  
SCHRENK, SCOTT, wildlife student, Helena RD

## KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

JOHNSON, KENT, computer assistant, SO, promotion  
LANE, ALAN, forestry technician, to lead forestry technician, Troy RD, promotion  
GAUGER, DELLORA, public information assistant, Fortine RD, to writer editor, temporary promotion  
NATALE, MARK, forester, Three Rivers RD, temporary promotion  
JORGENSON, JERRY, budget & accounting officer, SO, to administrative officer, temporary promotion  
JOHNSON, B. LYNN, supervisory budget & accounting analyst, SO to budget & accounting officer, temporary promotion  
HUTTA, PAUL, forestry technician, Rexford RD, temporary promotion  
WINSLOW, CAMI, personnel specialist, SO, to personnel officer, promotion  
KUJAWA, GREG, land management planner, Gallatin NF, to interdisciplinary, SO, promotion  
MCKAY, JOHN, geologist, BLM, Butte, to geologist, SO, promotion

## Reassignments & Transfers

BUCKMASTER, PAM, business management clerk, Three Rivers RD, to information receptionist  
DESY, TOM, forester, Three Rivers RD, to R-9, Hiawatha NF  
HIGGINS, JEANNE, forester, Three Rivers RD, to district ranger, R-4 Fishlake RD, promotion  
NELSON, NEIL, forestry technician, Rexford RD, to SO  
THOMPSON, DANIEL, operation resource analyst, SO to GIS Leader, WO engineering

## New Employees

EHRLICH, JAMES, computer specialist,

## LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

### Awards & Promotions

CASPER, LINDA, forestry tech, Judith RD, promotion  
MEYERS, RON, civil engineer, SO, promotion  
MUNOZ, MIKE, district ranger, Rocky Mountain RD, promotion  
WHITTEKIEND, DAVE, minerals withdrawal team leader, SO, promotion  
YATES, RON, forester, SO, promotion

## Reassignments & Transfers

DOBROCKE, KAYE, BMA, Interp Center  
FREDERICK, JAY, wildlife biologist, Kings Hill RD

## New Employees

FORREST, JIM, forestry tech, Rocky Mountain RD  
JAUREGUI, JAMES, range student, SO  
KONKOL, SHEILA, resource asst, SO  
LLOYD-DAVIS, PAUL, partnership coord, L&C Interp Center  
MAXWELL, BILL, interp spec, L&C Interp Center  
MULLEN, BRENDAN, forestry technician, Rocky Mountain RD  
SCHALLER, STEVE, interp spec, L&C Interp Center  
WILLIS, HUEL, interp asst, L&C Interp Center  
WYNN, NEIL, engineering tech, L&C Interp Center

## Got a Minute?

# Catching up with Jim Hertel

The Forest Service's loss has been Great Falls' gain. **Jim Hertel**, who retired from the Lewis and Clark National Forest in May 1994, has been busy volunteering on community projects. A recent assignment was to inventory all the city's trees. It took Jim, a silviculturist by training, two years to finish the work.

"I walked every street and identified every tree on city property, giving the size and species," Jim stated. Thanks to Jim, Great Falls now has a computerized list of all the city's trees, including health information, and assessed value. The list is the base document for the city's maintenance schedule.

Jim also serves on the board of directors for Habitat for Humanity. Jim helps organize the projects and does some of the groundwork, such as laying sod and cutting trees when needed.

Jim is a member of the city's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as well. He is the



*Jim in regenerated clearcut.*

1994 photo by Bonnie Dearing.

current chair. He was involved in writing the city's park master plan, which recommended which parks get priority for maintenance and improvement. It also marked which park land was surplus. "It was very controversial. Neighborhoods wanted their parks at the top

of the list for improvements. Still it was fun," Jim said.

Jim's wife Jacqueline continues to work as the Lewis and Clark forest administrative and budget officer. They have four grown sons and several grandchildren. Their son Chris is a smokejumper in Grangeville, Idaho. For Jim, retirement has been full and satisfying.

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